

IT'S THE LITTLE TAXPAYER WHO PAYS EXEMPT TAXES OF WORLD'S RICHEST MEN

It is He Who Pays Interest on Money Borrowed to Make Up Deficits Caused by Failure of the Treasury to Pay Their Share of Public Up-Keep.

Carnegie and Two Rockefeller, John D. and William, as Well as Mrs. Russell Sage, Take Advantage of Law of 1913 and Pay No Taxes on Millions of Personal Securities.

By Sophie Irene Loeb.
Who bears the burden of Uncle Sam's taxes amounting to \$68,000,000?

Q. The little taxpayer.
A. Why?
Q. Because of this sum, \$68,000,000 is personal tax on \$1,000,000,000 in special franchise tax.

Q. To whom does the personal tax apply?
A. To all people having personal property.
Q. Well, then, what about the millions invested in personal property, such as Mrs. Russell Sage, John D. Rockefeller and Andrew Carnegie?

A. They have not paid personal tax since 1913.
Q. How much did Andrew Carnegie pay in personal tax before 1913?
A. In 1910 he paid taxes on \$5,000,000 amounting to \$97,000. In 1913 he paid the same amount.

Q. What happened in 1913?
A. They passed the law for \$50,000,000 and he paid it, the sum being \$97,000.
Q. What did Mrs. Sage pay in personal tax?

A. She was assessed for \$5,000,000 and paid \$97,000 every year until 1913.
Q. What about John D. Rockefeller?
A. He paid personal taxes on \$50,000,000 amounting to \$97,000, but he stopped paying.

Q. What happened in 1913 to stop this?
A. The law was changed so that the rich were exempt from paying taxes on their personal property.

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AND THEN WHAT DID MR. CARNEGIE DO?

He took \$50,000,000 of United States Steel bonds to the State Comptroller, paid one-half of one per cent, and had them stamped exempt from all State and city taxes.

These payment of taxes by the richest people on earth?

A. Somebody went up and passed a law in Albany.

EFFORT OF THE LAW EXEMPTING PERSONAL SECURITIES.

Q. What did this law do?
A. It is said if these people could come up to the State and pay one-half of one per cent, on their securities as taxes to the State they would be exempt forever more.

Q. What was the result of that?
A. These richest people on earth are exempt from paying taxes on personal property in the City of New York.

Q. Who bears the burden of this?
A. The smaller business man—the payer of lower taxes.

Q. Why has not such a law been corrected before all the people who supposedly have the most taxable property take advantage of it?

A. Why?
Q. How is the personal property assessed?

A. It is largely guesswork.
Q. Give an example.

A. Yesterday I saw a pile of letters from beyond the grave saying they had no longer anything to tax (or rather the relatives wrote in answer to assessments, saying these assessed have long since died).

Q. Give another example.
A. A sister in Brooklyn who was assessed for 19 cents a day by the aid of a charity institution, was assessed \$10,000 for personal property, and she had to borrow a dime to come to the collector's office to pay it.

Q. Give another example.
A. Mrs. Green, the richest woman on earth, lives in Jersey and is not required to pay any personal tax, and she has a house in New York City.

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PASSPORT PLOT BARED ON TIP BY KEEN-EYED GIRL

Real Story Revealed When Cook, Madden and Stegler Are Sentenced.

PHOTOGRAPHER'S AID.

Noticed Man Who Claimed Irish Name Had German Accent.

The true story of what led to the arrest of Richard Peter Stegler, self-styled German spy, in the passport fraud plot he engineered was told for the first time when he was arraigned this afternoon before United States District Judge Edward D. Cushman. Before Stegler faced the bar for his share of punishment, Richard Madden and Gustave Cook, his tools in the plot, were sentenced for helping him get the passport he planned to use on a spying trip to Great Britain. Then Stegler pleaded guilty, with the expectation of mercy for his services as a Government witness against Cook and Madden, who were convicted yesterday by a jury after six hours' deliberation of Stegler's story that he bought the birth certificate of an American citizen from them.

When Stegler was arrested by Department of Justice operatives under Capt. William Offley, it was reported he had been caught on a tip from the British Consulate. Then it was said a former sweetheart, piqued at his marriage to another, had been the informer.

But Capt. Offley gives the credit to a slip of an Irish girl, who, as clerk in a photograph gallery uptown, wasn't deceived when a man with a strong Teutonic countenance presented himself for photographing and said he was a native of her own little green isle.

This young woman, whose name Capt. Offley has promised her he will not reveal, detected Stegler in an obvious fabrication that fooled passport officials when he made applica-

tion for safe conduct to England. It occurred to none of them, apparently, to ask how a man whose very accent betrayed his German birth, could demand the right to travel under the name of Richard Madden.

Two weeks before the plotters were taken into custody Capt. Offley got a telephone message from the girl. She said a man had been in the shop and had his picture as Richard Madden.

"His name isn't even near Madden," she told Offley. "He's very much German. Maybe there's something crooked."

Capt. Offley at once telegraphed to Washington for a copy of the photograph attached to the passport application of Richard Madden. Back came the picture, which later turned out to be Stegler's.

Noting from the application that C. F. G. Leonard had signed as identifying witness for "Madden," Capt. Offley sent Agent Albert G. Adams to question Leonard. Leonard was sure his friend's name was Madden, but told Adams he could swear by going to the Kouffler & Ewer offices in Hoboken, where "Madden" had been employed.

Armed with the picture, Adams inquired at the Hoboken plant if a man named Madden had been working there. Nobody had ever heard of him. When he produced the photograph it was instantly identified as that of Stegler. Nobody knew where he lived, but some one remembered that at the time of his marriage there had been an odd notice of, written by Stegler himself, in a newspaper.

It didn't take long to get Stegler's address, No. 25 St. Nicholas Terrace, from the newspaper file, but it occurred to the detective that Stegler had an opportunity to take a very important step, on the advice of his bride.

Adams had hardly left the Hoboken offices, it was learned later, when someone telephoned to his apartment and warned him that a stranger was making searching inquiries about him. Stegler at once confessed to his wife that he had the false passport papers in the house and was in danger of arrest for fraud.

"Get them out of here!" was her order.

Stegler took the papers, which included several letters and telegrams signed with the name of Capt. K. H. Boy-Ed, German naval attaché in New York, to Edouard Harrington, a steamship agent, and told him the whole story. Harrington looked them in his safe and Stegler went home. Five minutes later Adams arrived at the Stegler apartment.

Taken to Capt. Offley's office, Stegler told where his papers were, and was allowed to go home over night. By the time Harrington was to the Federal Building Stegler had told his story to a reporter, and had left the papers upon the promise of a job at \$25 a week in a newspaper office.

Stegler was at once arrested and had the pleasure of reading the story of his escapade in jail in the Times the next day. Upon information gotten from the papers the arrest of Cook and Madden quickly followed.

"The man who was the photographer's girl and Agent Adams," says Capt. Offley.

PROTECTION FOR FRENCH SUBJECTS IN MEXICO

Official Announcement by Delcasse That Washington Has Responded to Appeals.

PARIS, March 19.—Replying in the Journal Officiel to a question asked by Deputy Andre Honnorat, Foreign Minister Delcasse says that the French Government has taken measures to protect French citizens in Mexico against forced contributions, spoliation and vexations of all sorts but without in any way interfering with the interior politics of Mexico.

French cruisers, the French Foreign Minister says, which had been detached for service in the Gulf of Mexico to assure protection for the French population, are now being detailed for other service on account of the European War, but the French Government has consulted with the Washington Government concerning urgent measures of protection and the good offices of the American Government had been unavailing.

CARRANZA IN MONEY CLASH.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—Friction between Gen. Carranza and Gen. Gonzalez, local commander at Tampico, over the collection of the petroleum production tax, has been caused by the claim of Gonzalez that the taxes should be used for local purposes, the State Department was advised to-day. A recent order, it was reported, required all future payments to be made to the General Director of the Stamp Office in Vera Cruz instead of in Tampico. Carranza has been ordered by Carranza to give adequate protection to all foreigners and their interests, the department was advised to-day.

Mulqueen Head of Catholic Club. The Catholic Club last night elected these officers for the coming year: President, Michael J. Mulqueen (re-elected); First Vice President, Frank F. Liscio; Second Vice President, Andrew J. Connick Jr.; Secretary, Percy J. King; Treasurer, Alfred J. Barvett; Editor of Managers, Thomas E. Murray, Peter H. Moore, John F. Martin, John J. O'Keefe, Victor J. Dowling, Frank D. Gifford, Alfred J. Talley and Justin C. O'Brien.

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